

Veni Creator Spiritus
Come, O Creator, Spirit Blest
Edward Caswall / TALLIS' CANON



1. Come, O Creator, Spirit blest,
and in our souls take up thy rest;
come with thy grace and heav'nly aid,
to fill the hearts which thou hast made.
2. Great Paraclete, to thee we cry,
O highest gift of God most high;
O font of life, O fire of love,
and sweet anointing from above!
3. Thou in thy sev'nfold gifts are known;
the finger of God's hand we own;
the promise of the Father thou,
who dost the tongue with pow'r endow.
4. Our senses kindle from above
and make our hearts o'erflow with love;
with patience firm and virtue high
the weakness of our flesh supply.
5. Drive far from us the foe we dread
and grant us thy true peace instead;
so shall we not, with thee for Guide,
turn from the path of life aside.
6. O may thy grace on us bestow
the Father and the Son to know,
and thee, through endless times confessed,
of both th'eternal Spirit blest.
7. All glory while the ages run
be to the Father and the Son,
who rose from death; the same to thee,
O Holy Ghost, eternally.

Inspiration: "Veni, Creator Spiritus"; attributed to Rabanus Maurus, ca. 776-856.
Lyrics: 88.88; Edward Caswall, 1814-1878, in "Lyra Catholica", 1849.
Music: TALLIS' CANON; Thomas Tallis, ca. 1505-1585.